15 1953

The Honorable Richard M. Himon Vice President of the United States Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Vice President:

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I have your letter of October 5, 1953, concerning Executive Order 10479 which sets forth the Government's non-discrimination employment policy and the responsibilities of each agency in carrying out this policy. In accordance with the previous Executive Order 10308 relating to this subject, this Agency has acted to carry out the purposes of that Executive Order by incorporation, as standard practice, of the prescribed Government non-discriminatory clause in contracts entered into by this Agency.

With the additional emphasis provided the Government's program of non-discrimination by Executive Order 10479, the present regulations and procedures of this Agency are being reviewed to incorporate such changes as are necessary to meet the requirements of the present Executive Order. We envisage the following measures: (a) emphasis in preliminary discussions with contractors on the importance of compliance with the clause; (b) a letter to each contractor signed by the Chief of Logistics or his designee further emphasizing the importance of compliance; (c) the placing of responsibility for the Agency's compliance with the Executive Order on the Chief of Logistics, together with instructions that all complaints of non-compliance be referred to him immediately; and (d) instructions to personnel visiting contractors' plants to report any evidence of discrimination to the Chief of Logistics.

As suggested in your letter, two members of my staff have discussed this subject at length with Mr. Seidenberg and Mr. Rucker of the President's Committee on Contracts who made many helpful suggestions which have been of great assistance to us. We will seek continuing advice and guidance from the Committee in developing our new procedures.

I assure you that I am most anxious to cooperate in every way with your Committee in carrying out our responsibilities under the Executive Order.

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Attached is a proposed answer to the Vice-President's letter on contractors compliance with the President's non-discrimination policy. This letter has been further rewritten to reflect your views. The chief change is in the second paragraph which now lists the action we plan as follows:

- (a) Emphasis in preliminary discussions on the importance of compliance with the clause;
- (b) A letter to each contractor signed by the Chief of Logistics or his designee further emphasizing the importance of compliance;
- (c) The placing of responsibility for the Agency's compliance with the Executive Order

on the Chief of Logistics, together with instructions that all complaints of non-compliance be referred to him immediately; and

(d) Instructions to personnel visiting contractors' plants to report any evidence of discrimination to the Chief of Logistics.

The last paragraph has also been changed to provide an assurance of vonr cooperation with the Committee.

Acting Deputy Director (Administration)

13 November 1953

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